

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

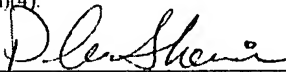
Applicants: Jon C. SOPER, et al. Docket No.: GIV.P30054
Serial No: 10/555,727 Examiner: Jyoti CHAWLA
Filed: November 7, 2005 Group Art Unit: 1794
Title: Alginate Matrix Particles

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT
COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
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July 6, 2009
(date)

RESPONSE B TO OFFICE ACTION

To the Honorable Commissioner For Patents:

I. INTRODUCTION

Applicants, through their undersigned attorneys, hereby respectfully respond to the Office Action mailed March 3, 2009.

Listing of Claims begin on Page 3.

Remarks begin on Page 6.

37 CFR §1.7 provides “[W]hen the last day, or the last day fixed by statute or by or under this part for taking any action, or paying any fee, in the Patent and Trademark Office falls on Saturday, Sunday or on a Federal holiday within the District of Columbia, the action may be taken, or the fee paid, on the next succeeding day which is not a Saturday, Sunday, or Federal holiday.”

The Office Action was mailed on March 3, 2009 and set a three months or thirty (30) days shortened statutory period for response (whichever is longer). The longer period for response ended on June 3, 2009. Applicants submit herewith a Petition for a one-month extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136(a) and the required Petition fee under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a)(3). The period for response with a one-month extension of time ended on Friday, July 3, 2009 in which the Patent and Trademark Office was closed for the 4th of July holiday. Today, July 6, 2009, is the next succeeding day that is not a Saturday, Sunday or Federal holiday within the District of Columbia. Accordingly, this Response is timely.